**Washington**, **DC** – Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) released the following statement regarding the shooting involving Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, members of her staff and constituents:

"My deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, members of her staff and her constituents. This terrible act of senseless violence is a national tragedy that affects people across our country.

Gabrielle is a dedicated and focused public servant that has provided a new voice dedicated to addressing issues in her district and across the country. She has also been a friend to the Central Coast, as member of the House Armed Services and Foreign Affairs committees, Gabrielle visited our area to tour the Defense Language Institute where she praised the work this institute and its students—and the critical role they are playing in securing our country.

As news develops, my thoughts continue to be with her husband, Captain Mark Kelly, their family, and to all the staff and others who have fallen victim to his unthinkable crime."

##